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STATINTL

2 Imprisoned by Rhodesia as Spies Said to Have Been Hired by U.S.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Jan. 4 (Sunday) (AP)—A newspaper here reported today that two men sent to prison in Rhodesia last month for economic espionage against Prime Minister Ian Smith's government were working for the United States.

The Sunday Times said investigations that led to the arrests of two Rhodesians, journalist John Roger Nicholson and attorney Alfred Trevor Gallaher, also uncovered a spy network that involved the U.S. consulate general in Salisbury and the C.I.A.

Through the network, the newspaper said, the U.S. Government gained information

about Rhodesia's counter-espionage activities in the field of economic sanctions and international trade.

The report said Nicholson was recruited by the CIA after he became financial editor of Salisbury's Rhodesia Herald in 1968. He was sentenced to 18 months hard labor for breaking the Official Secrets Act and emergency powers regulations. Gallaher was sentenced to four years.

The Sunday Times said Nicholson's contact at the American consul general's office was political officer I. L. Smith, who left South Africa on extended leave after Nicholson's arrest.

The paper said Gallaher

worked independently of Nicholson as a spy for the U.S. State Department. The report identified his contact as U.S. Consul General Paul O'Neill.